

AMERICAN MIDWIFERY CERTIFICATION BOARD 2022 Annual Report



Background

The mission of the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) is to protect and serve the public by leading the certification standards in midwifery. The AMCB fulfills this mission through three primary activities: developing and administering a validated certification exam to assess the entry-level competencies of nurse-midwives (CNM) and midwives (CM); requiring a mandatory certificate maintenance and re-certification program for all AMCB certified CNM/CMs, and maintaining professional discipline.

Since 2002, the AMCB has been accredited through The National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA). Compliance with the NCCA Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs mandates that NCCA accredited organizations adhere to modern standards of practice in the certification industry. Both the Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM) and Certified Midwife (CM) certification programs are accredited by NCCA through 12/31/2026.

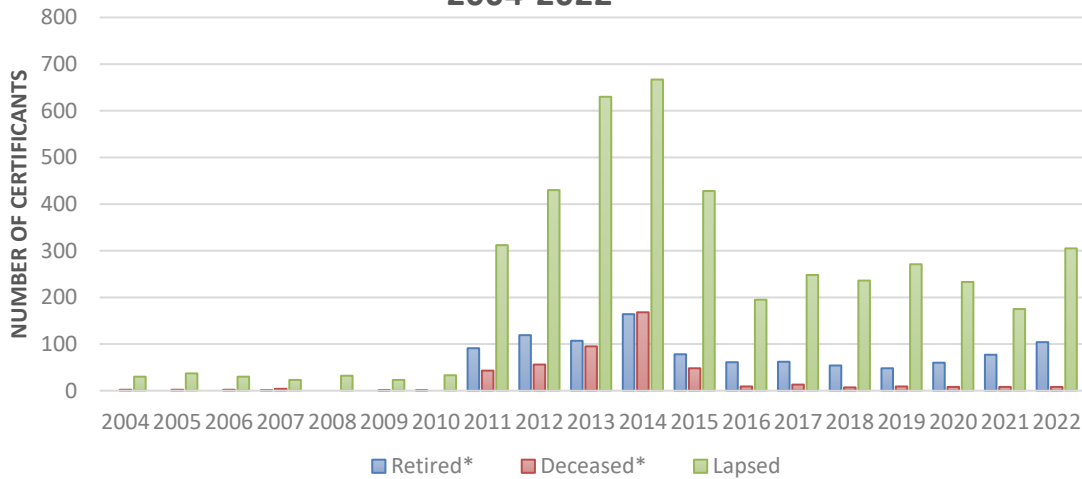
Recertification

From 2015 to 2020, the annual number of midwives choosing to retire has remained relatively stable with nominal increases of 1.1 to 2.4% (See Table 1 and Figure 1). However, this number rose to 3% in 2021 and 4.2% in 2022, the highest increase since 2014. This trend is likely a result of aging baby boomers who are now in their 60's and 70's and will likely continue to increase over the next few years. The number of midwives recertifying also rose from 1,937 to 2,469. It is anticipated this trend will increase to correlate with the rising number of newly certified CNMs/CMs.

Year of Recertification	# Of Certificants Eligible to Recertify	% Recertified	# Chose to be put in Retirement Category
2006	551	93%	
2007	495	93.7%	
2008	458	92.1%	
2009	427	93.4%	
2010	402	90%	
2011*	1,563	84.4%	87 (5.6%)
2012	2,748	77.4%	115 (4.2%)
2013	2,063	64.3%	100 (4.8%)
2014	2,680	69.5%	147 (5.5%)
2015	3,120	84.3%	54 (1.7%)
2016	1,535	85%	36 (2.3%)
2017 [€]	2,093	86%	48 (2.3%)
2018	1,859	85%	45 (2.4%)
2019	2,388	88.6%	33 (1.4%)
2020	3,186	91.6%	35 (1.1%)
2021	1,937	88%	58 (3.0%)
2022	2,469	83%	104 (4.2%)

*Beginning in 2011 all certificants were required to begin recertifying. Before this, anyone certified prior to 1996 did not have to meet recertification requirements.

**Figure 1: AMCB Recertification Statistics
2004-2022**



Beginning in 2011 all certificants were required to begin recertifying. Before this, anyone certified prior to 1996 did not have to meet recertification requirements.

*Accounts marked as Retired or Deceased can occur any time within cycle, years listed are when they are moved, not necessarily certification expiration date

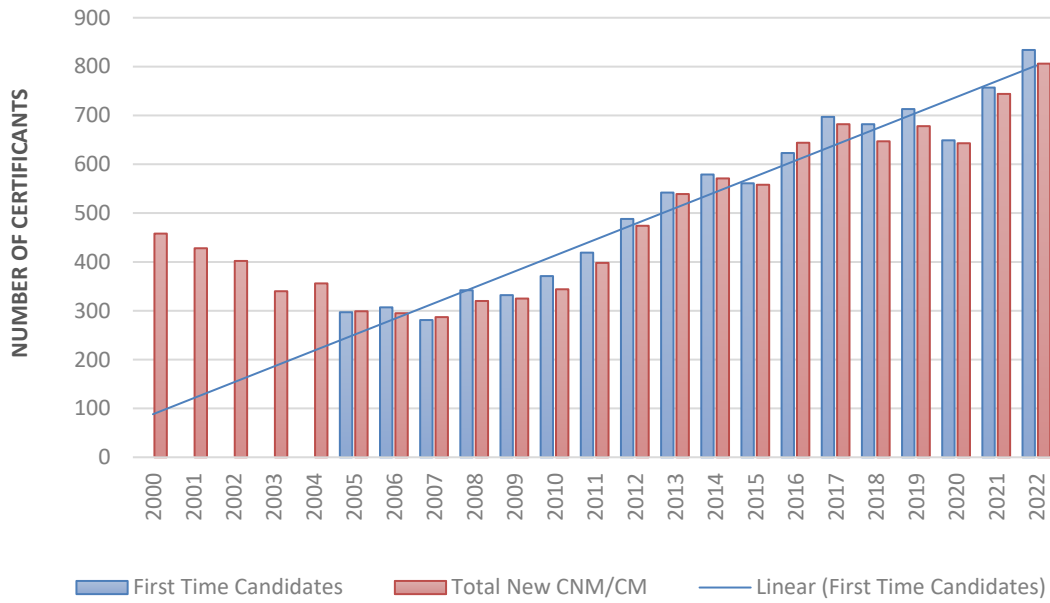
New Certification

The national certification exam (NCE) has been administered via computer-based testing (CBT) since 2005. AMCB’s testing partner; PSI Services, offers testing 52 weeks of the year, 5 days each week and at least one Saturday per month in all 50 states within the U.S. Candidates for certification are able to take the examination at their convenience at any of PSI’s 300 plus testing sites as soon as their application is approved. Candidates receive official pass/fail results at the conclusion of their examination. AMCB then issues a formal certificate as well as wallet-sized certification card for ease in documenting current certification.

The number of newly certified CMN/CMs rose 8.3% in 2022, continuing the 15.7% up-trending noted in 2021 (see Table 2, Figure 2). As the healthcare work force stabilizes after the COVID-19 pandemic, it is anticipated that there will continue to be a steady increase in these numbers. Several new midwifery programs opened in 2022 to meet the rising demands for competent, well-trained midwives. Additional details by state can be found at: <https://www.amcbmidwife.org/about-amcb/research-reports>.

Year	First Time Candidates	Total New CNM/CM	New CNM	New CM	Annual % Increase or (Decrease) in new CNM/CM
2000		458	451	7	N/A
2001		428	422	6	(6.6%)
2002		402	400	2	(6.1%)
2003		340	335	5	(15.4%)
2004		356	341	15	4.5%
2005	297	299	293	6	(16%)
2006	307	295	291	4	(1.3%)
2007	281	287	285	2	(2.7%)
2008	342	320	318	2	10.3%
2009	332	325	323	2	1.5%
2010	371	344	339	5	5.5%
2011	419	398	392	6	13.6%
2012	488	474	467	7	16%
2013	542	539	536	3	12.1%
2014	579	571	563	8	5.6%
2015	561	558	547	11	(2.3%)
2016	623	644	632	12	15.4%
2017	697	682 ^ξ	677	5	5.9%
2018	682	647	642	5	(5.1%)
2019	713	678	665	13	4.8%
2020	649	643	639	4	(5.2%)
2021	757	744	737	7	15.7%
2022	834	806	799	7	8.3%
Note: Total New CNM/CM includes successful first time and repeat testing					
ξ Overall increase in new CNM/CMs since 2000 is 76%					

**Figure 2: Annual Number of New Certificants
2000-2022**



Exam Pass/Fail Rates

As required by NCCA in 2015, pass/fail statistics are now included in the AMCB Annual Report. As reported below in Table 3, the overall pass rate for all exam attempts in 2022 was 81.3%, nominally increased from 81% in 2021. This data does not differentiate first time versus repeat test attempts (which can lower the over all pass rates). In 2021, for example the first-time pass rate was 84.7 % with a repeat pass rate of 64%. Likewise in 2022, the first-time pass rate was 83% and repeat pass rate was 72.2%, a notable rise from previous years. Several midwifery programs continue to have 100% first-time pass rates: 13 in 2020, 5 in 2021, and 8 in 2022.

Year	Total Candidates Examined	Pass Rate	Fail Rate	Total Number of CNMs Certified	Total Number of CMs Certified	Total Number of Certificants
2015	610	560/91.8%	50/8.2%	11,111	99	11,210
2016	687	648/93.9%	42/6.1%	11,728	100	11,628
2017 [€]	754	682/90.5%	72/9.5%	11,752	99 [€]	11,851
2018	802	648/80.8%	154/19.2%	12,111	101	12,212
2019	877	677/77.2%	200/22.8%	12,465	116	12,581
2020	772	643/83.3%	129/16.7%	12,805	119	12,924
2021	918	744/81%	174/19%	13,382	123	13,259
2022	992	806/81.3%	186/18.7%	13,798	130	13,904
[€] Note decrease in CMs due to 3 conversions to CNM and 3 whose certification lapsed						

Activities and Updates

2022 was a productive year for AMCB with several noteworthy accomplishments:

-We transitioned from a traditional strategic plan to collecting innovative ideas year-round from stakeholders which created a living document to work from. This process will enable AMCB to address new ideas and make changes in a timelier fashion. For example, CMP article sets are now available on-line in response to these suggestions.

-We have fully transitioned to PSI psychometrician services and streamlined the entire exam production process.

-The NCCA reaccreditation process was completed. AMCB is now fully accredited until 12/31/2026

-A formal recruitment policy for replacing board and committee members was created. This policy is posted on the AMCB website.

-A DEIB web page is now available and AMCB staff, Board, and committee members have continued this important personal and organizational anti-racism work.

-The 2022 Task Analysis was completed and the results are available with a companion infographic on the AMCB website.

-AMCB actively participated in ACNM's Access to Equity in Midwifery grant.

-The AMCB headquarters moved to a new office now located at 8825 Stanford Blvd, Suite 150, Columbia, MD 21045.

Board Member Changes

2022 also marked the end of the term for AMCB Consumer Board member L.E. Cohen. This vacancy has been filled for 2023 by Clarissa Huard, MPH.

Tanya Tanner CNM, PhD, MBA, RN, FACNM, has stepped down from the Board as the Chair of the Research Committee but has remained as an active member of the committee. Brie Thumm, PhD, CNM, RN, MBA has replaced her as the Chair of the Research Committee beginning in 2023.

We would like to welcome Clarissa and Brie to our BOD. We would also like to thank L.E. for her dedicated service to AMCB and, also acknowledge the significant contributions of Dr. Tanner in her role as the Research Committee Chair. We are grateful she will continue her service to AMCB as a member of the research committee.

Specific President and CEO Activities

Although AMCB has had a productive and stable year, we are aware of the recently announced financial struggles within ACNM. We have met with ACNM, ACME, and ACNM Foundation leadership to brainstorm solutions and remain committed to providing support where possible. This has included forwarding important messages to all AMCB certificants from the ACNM President and CEO and becoming a sponsor at the Annual Meeting in May 2023. We will continue to support our midwifery colleagues within the boundaries of our accreditation requirements as this situation unfolds in the coming year.

Summary

2022 has brought much success to AMCB as we continue to recover from the pandemic. In-person meetings at the new office were productive, lively, and welcome gatherings. We welcomed 806 newly certified midwives into the workforce in 2022, bringing the total CNM/CMs to 13,904. As more programs become accredited, it is anticipated this trend will continue to meet the growing need for competent, well-trained midwives.

While we have much to celebrate this year, there is always ongoing work to be done and AMCB is well positioned to face any challenges that may arise in the coming year. We have had the good fortune of stable and dedicated leadership and staff with ongoing financial stability. I am grateful for the volunteer service of our board and committee members and proud to serve as your president.

The 2022 AMCB Board of Directors was composed of the following individuals:

Linda Hunter, CNM, EdD, FACNM, President

Erin McMahon EdD, CNM, RN MSN, Secretary

Barbara Graves, CNM, MN, MPH, FACNM, Treasurer

Amy Wooten CNM, CDR, WHNP CNS, Examination Committee Chair

Jan Kriebs, CNM, MSN, FACNM, Certificate Maintenance Program Committee Chair

Tanya Tanner, CNM, PhD, MBA, RN, FACNM, Research Committee Chair

Elle Annalise L. Schnetzler, DM, CM, FACNM, Credentials, Administration & Reporting
Committee Chair

Rick Garcia PhD, RN, CCM, FAAOHN, Professional Liaison

Robert Hawkins, PhD, DNP, MPH, MS, MBA, MA, CRNA, Professional Liaison

Dominique Delma, MD, Professional Liaison Member

Lauren Elizabeth Cohen, MPH, Consumer Member

Carrie D. Bright, IOM, CAE, Chief Executive Officer, Ex-officio Member